657 narration and dialogue had been dubbed in Chin-
185 ese.[31]

VI. AID TO FAMILIES OF "MARTYRS" AND SERVICEMEN

729 In Communist China, aid to the families of
• 736 "martyrs" and servicemen has been given a great deal of publicity. Concern for the welfare of the members of the armed forces and their families is specified in Article 25 of the Common Program, one of the first documents ratified by the Peking regime. It states: "Dependents of those who have given their lives for the revolution and members of the revolutionary forces who are in need shall receive preferential treatment from the state and from society. The People's Government shall make appropriate arrangements for disabled or retired servicemen who have participated in the revolutionary war, providing them with means of livelihood or with occupation."[32] However, the fact that the nationwide campaign did not begin until late 1950 indicates that the need for provisions of this sort increased during the fighting in Korea.[33] On December 11, 1950, the Ministry of Internal Affairs promulgated five sets of regulations providing compensation for dependents of service-

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31. Kuang-ming Jih-pao [Enlightenment Daily], Nov. 27, 1954, p. 1.

32. The Important Documents of the First Plenary Session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Peking, Foreign Languages Press, 1949, p. 10.

33. Relief Work Under the Chinese Communists, p. 18.

729 men. These were provisional regulations governing preferential treatment of families of revo-
• 736 lutionary "martyrs" and servicemen' preferential treatment of, and compassionate payments to, disabled servicemen; citations and compassionate payments for revolutionary workers who had been injured or killed and citations and compassionate payments for members of the People's Militia and laborers in military service who had been injured or killed.[34] The preferential treatment of families of "martyrs" and servicemen included the presentation of land and farm implements, government scholarships for children, reduced prices, discounts, etc. Only in cases of extreme hardship were direct payments given.

729 At the time of the lunar New Year in 1951,
736 the Communists promoted a campaign to honor
527 the families of the Chinese People's Volunteers and the People's Liberation Army. Since 1951, the lunar New Year, usually called the Spring Festival, and Chinese Communist Army Day, August 1, have been made occasions for the honoring of the families of "martyrs" and servicemen.

736 As part of the program to aid families and dependents of the armed forces, those in the cities able to work have been taught various handicrafts to assure their livelihood; for those

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34. Hsin-hua Yüeh-pao [New China Monthly], Peking, Vol, III, No. 3, Jan. 1951, pp. 516-21.

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236 in rural areas unable to work, a system of substitute-tilling has been adopted whereby their plots of land are cultivated for them.

Because North China came under Communist control before other regions, and Peking was designated as the national capital, many programs were first instituted in the North China Region. As early as 1950, production units were reported to have been organized in Peking and Tientsin to arrange for the employment of some 5,100 people designated as dependents of servicemen. The chairman of Hopei Province, speaking on Communist Army Day in 1951, asserted that there were 650,000 families of revolutionary "martyrs" and servicemen and 67,000 disabled veterans in that province. He also reported that in 71 counties, the system of substitute-tilling was in progress, and that work had been found for a large percentage of dependents and disabled veterans. But other reports gave less optimistic pictures, especially in regard to the program of substitute-tilling. In Ch'ing-yüan county, many dependents received substitute-tilling coupons but could not find any one to do the work. There were mistakes in distribution, and some persons who were not entitled to substitute-tilling coupons received them.[35] By 1953, this situation was reported to have been somewhat improved. Both in Hopei and Shansi, the substitute-tilling program was organized

35. Hopei Daily, August 1, 1951, p. 2.

736 under the agricultural production co-operatives or under other fixed arrangements for substitute-tilling.[36]

According to a broadcast in January 1955 by the Minister of Internal Affairs, incomplete statistics from 13 provinces showed that more than 60 per cent of the families of "martyrs" and servicemen were participating in mutual-aid groups and co-operatives and many had been elected officers of these organizations. Others were elected as delegates to the People's National Congress or had become village cadres. As of September 1954, according to the minister's report, there were 67 special schools for disabled veterans, with a total enrollment of 50,000, and some 10,000 who had graduated from these schools were given posts in the national reconstruction program.[37] The People's Daily (January 25, 1955) reported that some 382 "rehabilitated" veterans had been elected "labor models." The same source reported that there had been a 20 per cent increase in the number of families of servicemen joining mutual-aid groups and co-operatives in the period 1953-54. In Hopei Province, 60 per cent of the veterans became village cadres and some 1,300 were elected "labor models."[38]

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36. Tientsin Daily, Feb. 12, 1953, p. 3.

37. New China Monthly, No. 2, Feb. 1955, p. 19.

38. People's Handbook 1955, pp. 212-13.